"SCAN FOR VITAL SIGNS."
"THERE ARE SPORADIC SIGNS, COMMMANDER ...
=HHHH-K-K-K-K-=
"...BUT THEY ARE FADING."
"AND THE TARGET?"
"VITALS ARE NIL, COMMANDER."
CONFIRMED?
CONFIRMED, COMMANDER. TARGET IS NEUTRALIZED.
SEND OUT A SECONDARY TEAM TO RETRIEVE OUR FALLEN... AND THE UNIDENTIFIED HUMANOID.
"OUR SCI-OPS DIVISION WILL NO DOUBT FIND SOME VALUE IN IT."
READY? ON THREE.
ONE... TWO...

YOU'RE RIGHT. WILSON CAN'T... HE'S DEAD...
...BUT DEADPOOL'S IN THE HOUSE NOW, SPANKY! SO PICK UP YOUR FACE!
BRAKKA
BRAKKA
AND YOUR PANCREAS, AND YOUR LUNG, AND YOUR DUODENUM.

Wilson joined Canada's Department K and was mutated with a healing factor intended to cure his cancer. He worked with other operatives like Kane and Sluggo, but something went wrong. Whether due to a breakdown from his treatments or some other factor, Wilson apparently killed teammate Slayback. The government sent him to the Hospice for treatment, unaware of the sadistic experiments conducted by Dr. Emrys Killebrew. Killed for his rebellious streak, Wilson was revived by his healing factor, severely disfigured but no longer terminal. He tore the Hospice apart, freed his fellow test subjects, and proclaimed a new name for himself.

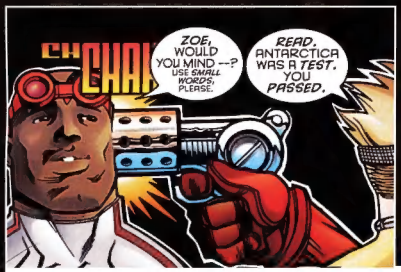
At this point Deadpool's history again turns vague as he bounced from job to job. He worked for Hammerhead's gang, fought Wolverine during the latter's years with Department H, and acted as assassin for the Kingpin, to name only a few high points.

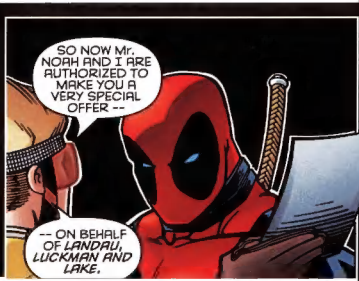
As a costumed mercenary, Deadpool frequented the horrific hangout called Hellhouse, and he took jobs for villains like the Wizard and heroes like Doctor Druid before settling in to steady work with the mysterious Tolliver, who also employed Vanessa, now the shapeshifting Copycat. Deadpool's weapon supplier and best friend, Weasel, was also part of Tolliver's circle.

OKAY, OKAY-- LET ME GET THIS CRYSTAL --
--TOLLIVER GOT KILLED BY CABLE, RIGHT ?
SO FAR'S WE KNOW.
AND HE LEFT HIS ENTIRE ESTATE--PROPERTY, WEAPONS AND ALL-- UP FOR GRABS ?
STOP THE PRESSES!

Eventually Tolliver sent Deadpool to kill Cable, another super-powered mercenary and, secretly, Tolliver's father. At the time, Cable was acting as mentor to the New Mutants, so Deadpool burst into the Xavier Institute, ready to rumble, but Cable defeated him and mailed him back to Tolliver. Deadpool could little imagine how important Cable and his cohorts would become in his later life.

Deadpool's world changed quickly when Cable changed the New Mutants into X-Force: Copycat went underground, his Department K crony Kane hunted both him and Cable for the government, Tolliver was slain, and a revived Slayback sought vengeance. In the chaos, however, Deadpool found tranquility in the friendship of Siryn from X-Force; although he came to deeply love her, Siryn never fully reciprocated his feelings.





Deadpool's life settled back to normal, or as close to normal as he wanted it, but Zoe Culloden of the mystery firm Landau, Luckman, and Lake felt Deadpool was meant for more than mercenary misadventures. Zoe claimed a heroic destiny awaited the dubious Deadpool, who was sure that, although he had worn many names, "hero" would never be one of them.